are being considered for introduction during the financial year 1948–49. There is also another proposal for the construction of 350 houses for Government servants on the site to the south of the west end of Sterling Road, Nungambakkam. Plans and estimates have been called for from the Chief Engineer (General, Buildings and Defence) in respect of this proposal. Apart from these, a house construction society has been started in the City for the construction of houses for middle class people. Government servants also can become members of this society. As regards the mufassal, it is proposed to start co-operative societies wherever there is shortage of housing accommodation. As a matter of fact, some societies have already been started. The Government have directed the constitution of committees in each municipality and in major panchayat areas where there is shortage of housing accommodation to select sites for the formation of co-operative societies. A Provincial Committee has also been constituted to examine and suggest suitable measures to solve the housing problem.

" (*c*) The question does not arise."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" May I know, Sir, what category of Government servants are entitled to houses which are under construction?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—" I think it depends on the number of houses available after construction."

SRI P. R. K. SARMA :—" May I know, Sir, whether there is a scheme under consideration of the Government for providing accommodation to industrial workers?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—" We are awaiting with interest the report of the Housing Committee which we hope will deal with this aspect of the problem."

SRI P. R. K. SARMA :—" May I know whether there is a scheme for building houses for the employees of the Government Press and whether the proposals have since been delayed?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—" The larger includes the less."

Industrial plants for the manufacture of acids.

* 20 *Q.*—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there are any industrial plants in the Province manufacturing different acids;

(*b*) what are the needs of the acids for industrial purposes;

(*c*) whether there are plants in the Province for the preparation of (1) acetic, (2) chloro-sulphuric, (3) chromic, (4) hydrochloric, (5) oxalic and (6) sulphuric acids; and if so, what the capacity of those plants is;

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(*d*) whether it is a fact that Messrs. Parry and Company are arranging to put up a plant for the manufacture of acetic acid;

(*e*) whether the Government have promised financial assistance to Messrs. Parry and Company and, if so, what the terms are on which such assistance has been offered;

(*f*) whether it is a fact that acetic acid can be manufactured from the fermentation of molasses to alcohol and by further oxidation to acetic acid; and

(*g*) whether any of the sugar factories in the Province have set up plants to convert molasses into alcohol and acetic acid and, if so, what the quantity produced in each factory is?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) (i) Inorganic acids: Sulphuric acid is the starting point in the production of heavy chemicals. The other acids are used for the manufacture of their derivatives. Hydrochloric acid is used in textiles, galvanizing, etc. Nitric acid is used in the manufacture of explosives and fertilizers and in refining gold;

(ii) Organic acids are used not only for manufacturing salts and derivatives which have vast industrial uses, but also in dyeing, rubber manufacture and in medicine;

" (*c*) (1) The Cordite Factory, Aruvankadu.

(2) & (3) No information.

(4) (A) East India Distilleries, Ranipet.
(B) Mettur Chemical and Industrial Corporation.

(5) No information.

(6) East India Distilleries, Ranipet.

The capacity in these cases is not known.

" (*d*) No information.

" (*e*) No.

" (*f*) Yes.

" (*g*) There is no information regarding the production of acetic acid in the sugar factories in this Province. The East India Distilleries and Sugar Factory at Nellikuppam is the only important distillery in this Province manufacturing rectified spirit at present.

The capacity of the factory is not known."

The average capital expenditure incurred on each student in secondary and in primary schools.

* 21 *Q.*—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) the average estimated capital expenditure incurred on each student in secondary and in primary schools, taking into account the purchase price of the site; and the cost of building and equipment;